

REMARKS

Claims 13 and 14 have been deleted without prejudice to future prosecution. Claims 1 and 6 have been amended. Therefore, claims 1-12 and 15-27 are pending with entry of this Amendment.

The Examiner objects to claims 1-3, 5, 7-12 and 15-27 as allegedly containing non-elected subject matter.

As a preliminary matter, the Applicant thanks the Examiner for her well-written and detailed Office Action of September 12, 2003, which clearly sets forth her position in response to Applicant's oral remarks and facsimile of May 2, 2003. In response to the Examiner's remarks, Applicant respectfully notes that the Examiner has not presented any legal support for the proposition that MPEP § 803.02 may be ignored and, in its place, 35 U.S.C. § 121 may be used to restrict subject matter within a claim.

However, to expedite prosecution, Applicant has amended the claims to cancel the allegedly non-elected subject matter.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the Examiner's objection.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance and an action to that end is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,



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